College Essay Self Edit

Directions:
1. Initial that you have completed each step of the self-edit checklist
2. Write 2nd draft and edit. Initial that you have completed the revision process of 2nd draft.

1. Do you find any run-ons, fragments, and comma splices? Are the sentences punctuated correctly? List any errors that you find:

2. Are the events in chronological order, if appropriate, and will the reader be able to follow along? How should the order be changed?

3. Is the essay focused and on topic? Has the prompt been effectively and thoroughly answered? If it is not, what is missing?

4. Is the essay cohesive with appropriate transitions between sentences and ideas? Does the essay flow?

5. Are new paragraphs indented and is formatting correct?

6. Is there a resolution, ending or solid conclusion? Is the conclusion effective?

7. Are there sensory details and examples to bring the story to life? Or is the story too simply stated?

8. Is the essay the appropriate length? Make sure to note minimum AND maximum word requirements.

Writing Resources:
Center for the Study and Teaching of Writing
Purdue Online Writing Lab
Essay Format Chart
College Narrative Self-Edit Checklist – 2nd Revision

1. _____ I have reread my essay out loud to make sure it makes sense.
2. _____ I have rechecked and fixed my essay for sentence structure and punctuation errors.
3. _____ I have included many details, examples, thoughts, and feelings to invite my reader to share my experience.
4. _____ I considered changes that my peer editor suggested.
5. _____ I identified the concrete details (CD) and commentary (CM) in THIS draft of the paper.
6. _____ I answered the prompt and stayed on topic.
7. _____ My conclusion/ending lets my reader know why this experience or narrative is important to me.
8. _____ I reread my writing AGAIN to check that details are in order and that it made sense.
9. _____ Word count is appropriate
10. _____ I am ready to write a FINAL copy.

Peer Edit Guide

1. What is your favorite part of the essay?

2. Summarize the main idea of this narrative (in two sentences).

3. Do the details in the narrative make sense? Do they appear to be in chronological or other appropriate order and can you follow along? Explain.

4. Does the writer provide enough information about the characters, places, and circumstances or do you need more information. What or who do you need to know more about? Explain in full.

5. Does the writer include sensory details and imagery that help you feel the experience along with him/her?

6. Why is this experience important for the writer? What do they say that lets you know this is the case?

7. Are there still grammatical errors in the essay (comma splices, run-ons, fragments)? Please notate these errors on the draft.

8. Is the essay the appropriate length (word count)? Estimate.

9. What suggestions or comments do you have for the writer?